

# Family Literacy Foundation

*Mission: To facilitate supportive relationships for children through family and friends reading aloud with them*

*Focus: Deployed Navy and Marine Corps, High Schools,*

*Detention Centers, Providing Uniting Through Reading*

*Youth Reading Role Educational Service Models*



*Building Bridges With Books*



# UNITING THROUGH

## READING<sup>®</sup>

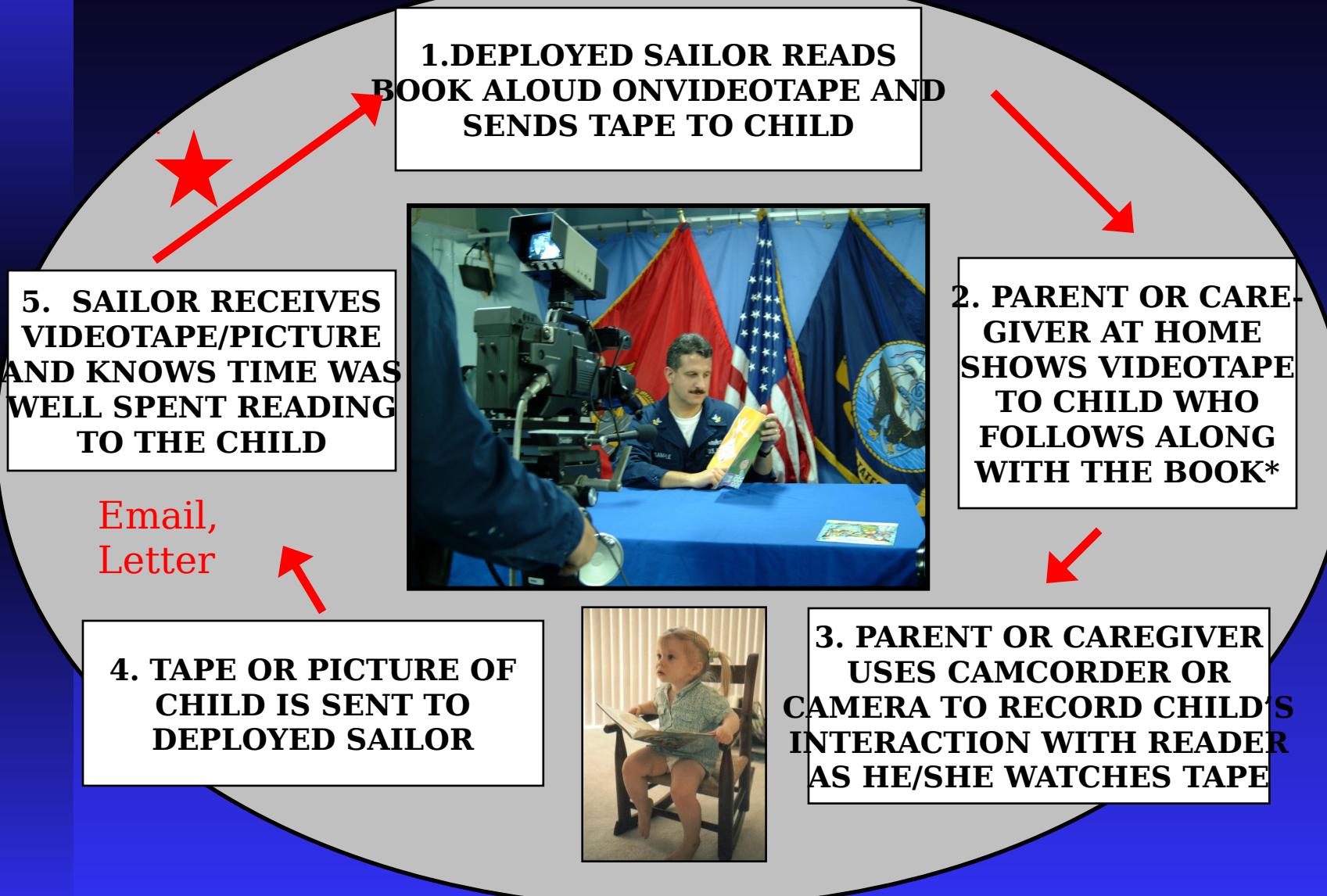
A quality-of-life program whereby deployed military personnel communicate with their children through the medium of reading stories aloud on videotape.



*This picture brought tears to my eyes. It makes me feel great to know that my son is still thinking about me. He is out here on the big blue sea need extra support. They can do so much to raise morale and this program does just that. Thanks so much!*

Petty Officer Third Class William B.  
USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)

# **“FULL CIRCLE” Method of Communication**



# BENEFITS of Participation in Uniting Through Reading

- Reduces children's anxieties about deployed parent's absence
- Homecomings are easier for parent and child
- Improved morale for all family members
- Spouse on home front feels more parenting support
- Family traditions begin or continue



- Promotes reading as an enjoyable activity
- Creates positive attitudes and self-esteem

# **EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS**

- Enhances language and vocabulary development
- Fosters creative thinking and active imagery skills
- Enhances comprehension and listening skills
- Can improve child's attention
- Provides opportunity to address family values, peer pressures, social issues
- Creates positive attitudes and self-esteem



*Courtesy ABC World News Tonight*

# **COMMAND BENEFITS UNITING THROUGH READING®**



- **QOL/QOS initiative enhances family communication**
- **Available to all personnel throughout deployment**
- **Opportunity to recognize Volunteers in the Command**
- **“Good News” public affairs story for Navy and USMC**

SSGT Tuggle-13 MEUPetty Officer and Mrs.  
Durel

# **“SINGLE” SAILOR PARTICIPATION**

## **Extended Family**

- Younger brothers, sisters  
nieces, nephews
- Grandchild

## **Mentor/Role Model**

- Partners in Education
- Big Brother/ Big Sister
- Adopt-A-School program



# “NEW DADS” PROGRAM

Sailors might not be able to be home for the birth of their child, but there is a way for them to share in this special occasion.

- Their baby will become accustomed to the sound of his/her Dad's voice and will get to know them even while gone
- Deployed Sailors won't be a stranger upon return  
HOW?

- Encourage “New Dads” to sign up for a UTR session

- The book “Love You Forever” is being donated to your library for their first reading to



# UNITING THROUGH READING®

## Carrier Strike

### ~~Groups~~ C. STENNIS

- J. F. KENNEDY
- HARRY S. TRUMAN
- KITTY HAWK

## Expeditionary Strike

### ~~Groups~~ L WOOD ESG and 11<sup>th</sup>

MEU

## Navy Mobile Construction

### ~~Battalions~~ 1, 3, 5, 7

## Naval Special Warfare

## Single Deployers

## Trident Submarines



*USS Nimitz (CV 68)*

*Homecoming-Nov. 03*

## Shore-based

- VP40
- MCAS IWAKUNI
- Camp Lemonier, Djibouti
- OIF II- I MEF
- 197<sup>TH</sup> FA BDE- Camp Cedar 2

# Action Steps to make the Program work

➤ **PACK A BOOK** ◀  
BE PREPARED FOR ANY OCCASION!

For a daughter...son...grandchild...brother...sister...niece...nephew...neighbor

**NMCB 3**  
Is a proud participant of  
  
*Family Literacy*  
FOUNDATION

UNITING THROUGH READING®

YOU can take part in the special occasions of a child's life even while deployed. **PACK** a couple of age appropriate **BOOKS** and padded mailers and you can create moments your special child can relive again and again.

*"I sent a birthday tape to my 3-year-old niece along with three books and she loved it. She watches it three times a day at least, according to her mother."*  
Military Participant

**Special Occasions**

❖ Birthdays	❖ Graduation
❖ First day of school	❖ Visit to the doctor
❖ First sports game	❖ Ballet recital
❖ Special Holidays	❖ New Baby
❖ Losing a tooth	❖ Riding a bike

Learn more at [www.read2kids.org](http://www.read2kids.org).



## "PACK A BOOK"

➤ Pack 2 or 3 of your child's favorite books with padded mailers to take with you.

➤ Participate in the **FULL CIRCLE** of COMMUNICATION

➤ Active Duty POC  
➤ Homefront POC

# Reading Together Strengthens Families

**FLF Website - [www.read2kids.org](http://www.read2kids.org)**



## Uniting Through Reading®

- Program Overview Video
- Testimonials
- FAQ and Research Articles
- Read-Aloud Resources
- Participation Surveys
- Email Newsletters

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